

SEASONS ON THE FARM



In Illinois we have a climate that is made up of four very different seasons. The earth moving around the sun makes the seasons.

Each season is special in its' own way. When thinking of winter, most people will think of cold and snow. Springtime is the warm, rainy part of the year when the earth seems to be born again. Summer is just the opposite of winter, being hot and perfect for water sports and play. Fall is the time of the year when the leaves of the deciduous trees burst into color and then fall to the ground.

Farmers in Illinois do different types of work during each of the seasons. In the winter, farmers order their seeds, work on their equipment, and keep their animals safe from the cold. In spring, many farm animals are born and this is when farmers will plant their crops. Summertime is perfect for plants and farm animals to grow. The farmer cares for the livestock by providing feed and water to them and tends to the crops. Fall is when the farmer uses machinery like, a combine, to harvest many crops.

We wear coats in the winter and swimming suits in the summer. Even the foods we eat change with the seasons. Summer gives us fresh fruits and vegetables—straight from the garden, while in winter we eat more frozen and canned foods.

The lessons and materials in this kit will help students understand how agriculture revolves around the seasons and how the farm brings us many lessons about winter, spring, summer and fall. Students will learn that while we go to the store to purchase our food, it begins with plants or animals raised on farms. Different seasons provide us with a variety of foods and other products. From the farm, products are transported, processed, marketed and distributed, involving a multitude of agricultural careers in this chain of events.

Through this kit, students will discover that they all depend on agriculture every day of their lives.



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Kit Objectives

1. To promote the incorporation of agricultural concepts into the classroom curriculum.
2. To provide an easy-to-use collection of valuable resource materials in order to help pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade teachers create or enhance an agricultural unit on a topic or theme such farming or seasons.
3. To provide a selection of activities and necessary supplies to teach about the chosen topic or theme while addressing Illinois Learning Standards across all subject areas.

Some Notes on Using the Kits:

Kit Contents - The kits are intended to be “resource materials” kits. Due to the number of activities included in the various books and guides only a limited number of hands on supplies are provided.

Illinois Learning Standards – Illinois Learning Standards have been identified and are listed in each subject area.

Web sites - To further assist teachers and students seeking information on agricultural topics, a list of related web site addresses has been provided in each kit in the More section of the notebook.

Teacher Input - Please feel free to add your own favorite activities that relate to this kit to the **More** section of this binder.

Each Kit also includes:

- **Cover Page for each discipline addressing Illinois Learning Standards**
- **Prices and Inventory Page of the kit and materials**
- **Student reading page in Language Arts/Poetry**
- **Vocabulary Cloze Activity in Language Arts/Poetry**
- **Logic Puzzles in Math**
- **Glyphs in Math** - *What is a glyph?* According to the 1992 Webster's College Dictionary a glyph is a pictograph or hieroglyph; any symbol bearing information non-verbally such as a handicap accessible symbol in the restroom. *Why use glyphs?* Glyphs allow students to collect, display, and interpret data about themselves and other meaningful topics. This activity will also allow the student to practice using a legend in the creation of the glyph.

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Table of Contents

- General Introduction
- Vocabulary/Top Terms
- Arts & Crafts
- Music & Rhythm
- Snackactivities
- Language Arts/Poetry
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Reproducible
- **More** – List of websites, videos, books and posters (not found in kit)

